



# Understanding the Three Child Outcomes

# The Three Child Outcomes



- Children have positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships)
- Children acquire and use knowledge and skills (including early language/communication and early literacy)
- Children use appropriate behaviors to meet their needs

# Outcomes Are Functional



Functional outcomes:

- Refer to things that are meaningful to the child in the context of everyday living
- Refer to an integrated series of behaviors or skills that allow the child to achieve the important everyday goals

# Children Have Positive Social Relationships



- Involves:
  - Relating with adults
  - Relating with other children
  - For older children, following rules related to groups or interacting with others
- Includes areas like:
  - Attachment/separation/autonomy
  - Expressing emotions and feelings
  - Learning rules and expectations
  - Social interactions and play

# Children Acquire and Use Knowledge and Skills



- Involves:
  - Thinking and reasoning
  - Remembering
  - Problem solving
  - Using symbols and language
  - Understanding physical and social worlds
- Includes:
  - Early concepts—symbols, pictures, numbers, classification, spatial relationships
  - Imitation
  - Object permanence
  - Expressive language and communication
  - Early literacy

# Children Take Appropriate Action to Meet Their Needs



- Involves:
  - Taking care of basic needs
  - Getting from place to place
  - Using tools (e.g., fork, toothbrush, crayon)
  - In older children, contributing to their own health and safety
- Includes:
  - Integrating motor skills to complete tasks
  - Self-help skills (e.g., dressing, feeding, grooming, toileting, household responsibility)
  - Acting on the world to get what one wants

# Outcomes Reflect Global Functioning



- Each outcome is a snapshot of:
  - The whole child
  - Status of the child's current functioning
  - Functioning across settings and situations
- Rather than:
  - Skill by skill
  - In one standardized way
  - Split by domains

# The Bottom Line Related to Achievement of the Three Outcomes

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Early intervention/early childhood special education strives to achieve all three of the outcomes for ***all*** of the children receiving services

# Additional Resources



- What is a Functional Outcome? handout
- Functional Outcomes activity practice individually or in a group
- Outcomes Jeopardy game- play individually or in a group



***For more information:***

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